



Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1919.

To

The Chairman & Members
of the Willenhall Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit to you my fifth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the District under your control, together with the Vital Statistics for the year 1919.

PHYSICAL FEATURES & GENERAL CHARACTER of the DISTRICT. The Township of Willenhall lies in a broad, shallow, upland valley 400 to 450 feet above the sea level, with a fall of the land to the South East, the land rising gradually on the North as far as Essington Windmill, and on the South as far as the range of hills from Dudley to Sedgley Beacon. The air is bracing and there is less fog than in most places in the Midlands at a lower altitude. The older houses are chiefly built on land having a clay or clay mixed with gravel bottom which is almost impervious to water; most of the newer houses are built on shale excavated from ironstone and coal mines. The sub-soil is therefore damp in many places, notwithstanding natural advantages which to some extent favour surface drainage. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in retail trades and in the manufacture of locks, keys, bolts, brass and iron castings, enamelled iron wares, currycombs, metal toys, horse shoes, stampings of all kinds and other hardware goods. During the War large quantities of munitions were made here including hand grenades, shells, bombs, aeroplane parts and much "furniture" of the battlefield, the town being a hive of industry by day and night. In the year under consideration work was brisk and a large number resident in adjacent towns found daily occupation here. There was very little unemployment and the town in this respect compared very favourably with the surrounding districts.

METEOROLOGY. The prevailing climatic conditions of the year had an important bearing on the death rate and may be summed up as follows :- The first quarter was characterized by severe frosts, snowstorms, easterly winds and rain, causing a high mortality from pulmonary diseases and during this period (March) there occurred an epidemic of Influenza. In this quarter there were 20 deaths Pneumonia 11 from Bronchitis 15 from Influenza and 10 from Phthisis. April on the whole was a cold month, except the 3rd week which was fine and warm, the last week being very cold culminating in a snowstorm. May was generally warm and fine and June cool. From July to September it was fine and dry with a moderate temperature, but rain falls in the middle of July and at the end of August caused sudden falls in the temperature.

It is significant that during the whole year only two deaths were recorded from diarrhoeal diseases as compared with 8 in 1918, 8 in 1917 and 9 in 1916 and here the moderate summer temperature and the salutary effect of heavy rainfall in the hottest months doubtless played an important part. It has been found that the summer rise of diarrhoeal mortality in the larger towns does not commence until the mean temperature recorded by the earth thermometer placed 4 feet below the surface has attained somewhere about 56° F. no matter what may have been the temperature previously attained by the atmosphere as recorded by the 1 foot thermometer. The maximum mortality from diarrhoea is usually sometime in August. The decline in the 4ft thermometer takes place very much more slowly than the atmospheric temperature under ordinary circumstances, but a heavy rainfall causes a much more rapid decline and there is a general inverse relationship between rainfall and diarrhoea. Owing to a cooler summer there were also fewer house flies. In the last quarter of the year after 3 weeks of very mild weather in October, it became wet and cold, a heavy snowfall at the beginning of November and then to the end of the year wet with very variable temperature, so that again pulmonary affections showed a higher mortality.

POPULATION

The estimated population for 1919 according to the figures supplied by the Registrar General is for the Birth Rate 20,090 and for the Death Rate 19,286. The "death rate" population excludes all non-civilian males whether serving at home or abroad, the "birth-rate (and marriage rate) population" on the other hand is intended to include all the elements of the population contributing to the birth and marriage rates. It is interesting to note here that the above total population of 20,090 coincides very closely to my estimate of last October for the Housing Survey i.e. 20,037. The population at the Census 1911 was 18,858, an increase of 343 since the Census of 1901. The pre-war population (1914) was 18,958 and the average annual increase for the 5 years before the war was very slight, in fact almost stationary. The area of the District 1277 acres and the rateable value about £58,088. The number of dwelling houses is 3837, giving an Average Number of Persons per House of 5.2. The General District Rate is 5/10 and the Poor Rate 7/10 in the £. The amount spent on out-door poor relief during the year was £1235-10-6.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY is from the Wolverhampton Corporation mains and the elementary Schools are supplied from this source also. The supply was abundant and good generally and there was no evidence of any disease due to its consumption, but on several occasions I received complaints of the water being of a bad colour and containing matters in suspension, including in one or two instances small live water insects.

The suspended matter was found to consist of vegetable subatances which was soon deposited on standing leaving the water clear and bright and there was no evidence of animal pollution. No cause could be found for this occasional disturbance of the water, although at one time I understood there was a serious damage at the Works. The Water Works Engineer has been communicated with but up to the present have received no satisfactory explanation from him.

SEWERAGE practically every street in the town is sewered.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS. Since the new Works were opened (Oct 25th 1915) there has never been a complaint from the County Council as to the character of the effluent discharged into the river Tame. The County Medical Officer of Health has reported on the Sewage analysis as being highly satisfactory, and the County Analyst's latest Report is as follows :-

T A B L E (1)

Analysis of sewage effluents taken from the Sewage Works Willenhall 1919.

	Crude Sewage	Tank effluent (Parts per 100,000)	Filter effluent
Total solid matter dried @ 212°F	123.6	89.6	100.0
Ditto in solution	80.0	80.0	-----
Ditto in suspension	43.6	9.6	trace
Ditto of which mineral	11.4	2.0	-----
: : : organic	32.2	7.6	-----
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	5.716	6.252	0.348
Albuminoid :	1.534	0.415	0.104
: : in clear liquid	.395	---	---
Nitric Nitrogen	0.0	0.0	5.55
Combined Chlorine	11.3	11.4	11.6
Oxygen absorbed in 3 mins	---	---	0.185
: : : 4 hours @ 80°F	1.980	2.156	0.651
Incubation test			satisfactory
Appearance	very turbid	turbid	nearly clear



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the crude sewage is of practically the same character as when analysed
 or you 100 years ago. The tank effluent is satisfactory and also in my
 opinion, is the Filter Effluent, the high Nitric Nitrogen being a
 splendid feature.

E. W. T. Jones, E. I. O.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

	No. of Privies	No. of W.W. Closets	No. of W.C.'s
At end of 1914	522	1617	724
At end of 1919 (estimated)	388	1635	1056

It is estimated that there are now 2691 water closets i.e. over two thirds of the town is on the water carriage system and connected with the sewer to the Disposal Works, but there is still need to push on with conversions to the water carriage system in order to completely abolish the remaining privies for such a system is disgusting and insanitary and little can be done to improve the "environment" while these are allowed to remain.

SCAVENGING This is carried out by the District Council. The dry refuse is deposited on tips which are plentiful and away from inhabited areas as there is no destructor, and the wet refuse is disposed of by depositing it on agricultural land, leased by the Council, situated at The Dingle, Wednesfield Road, and away from occupied premises. Would it not be possible to have this wet refuse tipped into the sewers? During the year the following quantities of refuse were removed:-

<u>Dry Refuse</u>	6466 loads	- about 20 loads per driver <i>diem</i>
<u>Wet Refuse</u>	479 loads	

MOVABLE ASHBINS

		End of 1914	End of 1919
Estimated no. of movable ashbins in the Dis-		1329	1414
:	trict.		
:	open Ashpits	143	92
:	Covered Ashpits	870	870

VITAL and MORTAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS. The births registered during the year numbered 429 i.e. 246 males and 193 females of which 9 males and 2 females were illegitimate giving a Birth Rate of 21.3 per 1000 per year, as compared with 23.6, 22.2, 23.9, 28.8 and 32.0 in the 5 previous years. The birth rate for the first half year was very low, but it began to show an increase in the third quarter, and in the last quarter a considerable increase — the births registered in this quarter alone being more than double the number of those registered in the first half of the year.

DEATHS. The total of civilian deaths registered was 257 i.e. 146 males and 111 females equal to a nett Death Rate of 13.3 per 1000 per year as compared with 20.2, 16.4, 12.8, 18.4 and 17.2 in the five previous years. Of this total 257 deaths, 25 males and 17 females died in Public Institutions outside the town.

INQUESTS 16 inquests were held in the District in the course of the year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. The deaths of infants (i.e. under one year old) numbered 36 i.e. 23 males and 13 females (including 2 illegitimate males) as compared with 40, 60, 38, 82, and 54 in the five previous years.

THE INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE WAS EQUAL TO 24 PER 1000 REGISTERED BIRTHS.

Of the 36 infants who died under one year old, 6 died from Bronchitis, 6 from Broncho-pneumonia; 16 from Prematurity; Debility, Marasmus and Malformation; 2 from Convulsions; and 1 each from Encephalitis, Gastritis, Enteritis, Measles, Intussusception and Congenital Syphilis.

Birth-rate, Death-rate & Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1919.
(Provisional figures; Populations estimated to middle of 1919 used for this table).

[illegible]

T A B L E (3)

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WILLEMBALL URBAN DISTRICT 1919

Causes of Death (Civilians only)		Males	Females
ALL CAUSES		146	111
1.	Enteric fever		
2.	Small-pox		
3.	Measles	4	3
4.	Scarlet fever		
5.	Whooping cough		
6.	Diphtheria and croup	1	
7.	Influenza	9	9
8.	Erysipelas		
9.	Pulmonary tuberculosis	10	7
10.	Tuberculous meningitis		
11.	Other tuberculous diseases	2	3
12.	Cancer, malignant disease	8	11
13.	Rheumatic fever	2	
14.	Meningitis	2	
15.	Organic heart disease	10	8
16.	Bronchitis	12	10
17.	Pneumonia (all forms)	23	12
18.	Other respiratory diseases	1	1
19.	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	1	1
20.	Appendicitis & typhlitis		1
21.	Cirrhosis of liver		
21a	Alcoholism		
22.	Nephritis and Bright's disease	3	
23.	Puerperal fever		
24.	Parturition, apart from puerperal fever		2
25.	Congenital debility, &c.	10	6
26.	Violence, apart from suicide.	7	
27.	Suicide	3	1
28.	Other defined diseases	33	34
29.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	5	2
Special Causes (included above)			
	Cerebro-spinal fever	1	
	Polio-myelitis		
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.		25	13
Total illegitimate		2	
TOTAL BIRTHS		236	193
Legitimate .		227	191
Illegitimate		9	2
POPULATION For Birth Rate		20,090	
For Death Rate		19,286	

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Cases 206 of Notifiable Infectious Disease verified during the year were as follows :-

Measles and German Measles	166	Ophthalmia Monatorium	5
Pneumonia	17	Malaria	3
Scarlet Fever	6	Erysipelas	2
Diphtheria	4	Cerebro-spinal Fever	2
Dysentery	1		

Of non-notifiable Infectious Diseases there came to my knowledge

Chicken Pox	11	Mumps	37
Whooping Cough	7		

The following additional diseases were made compulsorily notifiable during the year viz Acute Encephalitis Lethargica, Acute Polio Encephalitis (Jan 1st); Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery and Trench Fever (March 1st) The Order of 1915 making Measles and German Measles compulsorily notifiable was rescinded as from December 31st.

MEASLES was epidemic chiefly in the 2nd and 3rd quarter of the year. It has frequently been explained that Measles is one of the most difficult of the Infectious Diseases to check when once a case breaks out in a School, owing to the stage of greatest infectioity being about 3 or 4 days before the rash appears; hence usually during this period the child is attending school and unconsciously spreading the disease. Measles is very dangerous and fatal to young children and every means should be used to impress upon mothers the necessity for care in the treatment of the sufferers.

There were 7 deaths from Measles, and of these 5 died under 5 years of age and 2 between 5 and 15 years.

SCARLET FEVER during this year 6 cases were notified each from a different household. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA 4 cases. Sanitary defects were found in two instances and these were remedied. Two other cases occurred in one household; nothing was found on the premises likely to give rise to the disease and it seemed probable that the disease was contracted outside the town and that one patient infected the other. In both these cases the diagnosis was bacteriologically confirmed. There was one death from diphtheria.

Since 1908 the Council decided to pay to Medical Practitioners a sum not exceeding 10s/- per case to cover the cost of Anti Diphtheria serum used to patients whose circumstances did not enable them to provide such serum for themselves.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER. 2 cases notified. In one the diagnosis was confirmed after the patient was removed to the Wolverhampton General Hospital, and this patient died. The room, bedding &c. were disinfected after the patient was removed, "contacts" kept under observation and I took swabs from 3 of these but bacteriologically examination was negative in each case. In the second case, the subsequent course of the disease left some doubt on the diagnosis and it was afterwards notified as Tuberculous Meningitis from which the patient died. As the case was of a doubtful character I kept "contacts" under observation. Swabs from two of these were negative.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM 5 cases, all mild and all completely recovered.

PNEUMONIA Since the compulsory notification of this disease (March 1st 1919) 17 cases were certified. Thirty five deaths were recorded as compared with 62 in 1918 and of these 20 occurred in the first quarter of the year at the time Influenza was epidemic.

MALARIA and DYSENTERY The cases notified were relapses in ex-soldiers who had contracted the disease on Active Service abroad.

ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA and ACUTE POLIO ENCEPHALITIS. No cases notified. No primary vaccination or re-vaccination was performed during the year by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations 1917.

INFLUENZA about the beginning of March, after an interval of 2 months a further epidemic of this disease occurred in the district. Although not of so fatal a type as the Winter Epidemic of 1918, nevertheless a large number of persons were attacked and the epidemic lasted throughout the month.

There were 18 deaths, 9 males and 9 females as compared with 90 in 1918, and these classified into age periods were as follows:-

Between 5. 15 & under 25 and 45 and 65 and
and 15. 25 under 45 under 65 upwards
1 3 2 7 5

and in week ending.	Feb.8.	Mar.1.	Mar.8.	Mar 15.	Mar22.	Mar 29.	Ap.5
No. of Deaths Total	18.1.	1	4	5	4	2	1

WITH REGARD TO TETANUS, antitoxin for the prophylactic treatment of this disease will be supplied to Medical practitioners on application to the County Medical Officer of Health.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE there were 10 deaths from the 7 principal Zymotic diseases equal to a Zymotic Death Rate of 0.5 per 1000 per year as compared with 0.6; 1.7; 0.6; 4.3 and 1.7 in the 5 preceding years.

All the Elementary Schools were kept in good sanitary condition. They are under the management of the County Council who have whole time Medical Inspectors. No Schools were closed during the year on account of infectious disease. Certificates to

Elementary School Authorities advising exclusion from School of Scholars living in infected homes for specified periods were sent as follows:- Portobello 35; Central 29; St Giles' 23; Albion Road 21; Walsall Road 10; St Mary's 8; Little London 6; St Anne's 6.

Notifications of suspected cases of infectious disease are regularly received from Head Teachers of Elementary Schools and the cases are promptly visited and investigated.

Administrative measures adopted in cases of infectious diseases are as follows:- All cases notified are visited as soon as possible and enquiries made as to the probable source of infection. Instructions are given regarding isolation and a leaflet left giving suitable hints on the treatment of the disease and precautions to prevent its spread.

Any insanitary condition of the home or surroundings is noted and steps taken to remedy the same. Disinfectant is supplied when necessary and at the termination of the case the room bedding &c are disinfected if required. There is no Isolation Hospital in Willenhall except for Small-Pox.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS The arrangement with the Authorities of the University of Birmingham for examination of secretions in suspected cases of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Tuberculosis and Cerebro-spinal Fever continues. The following examinations were made during the year:--
Tuberculosis 8 (1 positive); Diphtheria 3 (2 positive); Cerebro-Spinal Fever "Contacts" 5 (all negative).

TUBERCULOSIS.

		Forms Total Between 2 & 5. 5-15. 15-25. 25-45. 45-65.					
Pulmonary	(A	25		4	4	13	4
	(O	8			1	7	
	(D	6			1	5	
		39		4	6	25	4
Other Forms	(A	4	1	1	1	1	
	(B	1		1			
		5	1	2	1	1	

The above Table indicate that a total of 44 notifications were received under the Tuberculosis Regulations having reference to 25 fresh cases (A) of Pulmonary and 5 fresh cases (A & B) of other forms of the disease. Eight patients were admitted (O) to Sanatorium and 6 were discharged (D) from same during the year. The deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis numbered 17 (10 Males and 7 Females) as compared with 40 in 1918 this gives a Death Rate from Phthisis of 0.9 per 1000, as compared with 2.2, 1.3, 1.1, 0.8 and 1.1 in the 5 preceding years. The requirements as to the notification of Tuberculosis by the Medical practitioners were duly and promptly observed and no action was required to enforce the regulations.

RAG FLOCK ACT

In compliance with the provisions of this Act 3 samples of Rag Flock were taken from the stock of Upholsterers in the Town and submitted to analysis. The Analysts' report stated that each of these samples complied with the Rag Flock Act for cleanliness thus:-

Soluble Chlorine per 100,000 parts	Sample A	B	C
	21	11	16

MILK.

Most of the milk is supplied from farms locally, only a small proportion being imported. There are 5 cowsheds in the District, 1 dairy and 38 milk retailers all of which are registered. The milk vessels are generally kept clean but the conditions under which the milk is sold are not always satisfactory. In some instances milk is retailed at small general dealers when it is impossible to obtain the proper standard of cleanliness. During the year there was a good supply of milk but no surplus. By the courtesy of the Food Controller I am able to state that the consumption of Milk in Willenhall approximates very nearly 3000 gallons weekly, and that at the end of the year the quantity consumed showed an increase of nearly 800 gallons per week in excess of that consumed at the beginning of the year.

No provision has yet been made by the Council for the examination of milch cows by a Veterinary Surgeon and I would recommend this measure for their consideration. No sample of milk was examined for the bacillus of tubercle. No action was considered necessary by the Local Authority under the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order 1918.

MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE.

The following are Particulars relating to the Work during the Year ending 31st December 1919.

Infants born in 1919.

Registered	Births			First Visits		Re-visits		Total Visits	
	Notified			Expectant Mothers	Children	Expectant Mothers	Children	Expectant Mothers	Children
	alive (1)	Premature (2)	Stillborn (3)						
471	392	7	20	23	412	25	2120	48	2552

Children on Visiting List at end of 1919.

Deaths and Removals of Children on Visiting List during 1919.

Welfare Centre

No. of cases of insanitary conditions reported to medical Officer of Health

Under 1 year (10)		1 year & under 5 (11)	Under 10 days Deaths (12)	Under 10 days Removals (13)	Over 10 days & under 1 year Deaths (14)	Over 10 days & under 1 year Removals (15)	1 year & under 5 Deaths (16)	1 year & under 5 Removals (17)	Expectant Mothers (18)	Children (19)	Attendances Expectant Mothers (20)		Children (21)	reported to medical Officer of Health (22)
746	859	8	-	9	10	19	35	8	138	27	761			25

The Visits to Expectant Mothers numbered 48 in 1919 whereas in 1918 only a very few were visited.

The Numbers on the Visiting List in 1919 were 746 and 857 as compared with 427 and 518 in 1918.

The number on the books at the Centre was 138, and the average weekly attendance 23. The Centre was closed for several weeks during the year owing to Influenza and Measles, but was open for the supply of foods &c. Dr Edith Guest was appointed Medical Officer to the Welfare Centre in November, and this Officer also has charge of the School Clinic.

The Staff at the Centre consists of a Committee of ladies (voluntary), the Medical Officer and two Health Visitors.

There are two Health Visitors appointed for Willenhall under the County Council Scheme and their work is supervised by the Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

THE STAFF consists of a Clerk, Medical Officer, Surveyor, Sanitary Inspector who is also the Housing Inspector under the Housing Act and two Health Visitors (appointed under the County Scheme).

ADOPTIVE ACTS. The following Adoptive Acts and Orders are in force in the district:-

- Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act 1890.
- Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 (parts)
- Dairies, Cowsheeds and Milk-shops Order (March 1889)
- Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin (L.G.B. Order 1910)
- Public Health Act Amendment Act 1907 (parts)

OVERCROWDING The extent of overcrowding in the Town is considerable and has become much more acute during the last four years. The reasons for this apart from the natural growth of population are found (1) the number of houses demolished for Works extensions (2) houses demolished as totally unfit (3) practically no new houses built (4) persons from neighbouring districts working in the Town and requiring accommodation owing to works extensions and shortage of houses elsewhere.

Although the cases discovered are dealt with as far as possible, the evil will continue to exist and little can be done to alleviate it until many more working-class houses are built.

The average number of persons per house to-day is 5.2. Having regard to the fact that 66% of the working-class houses have only two bedrooms, it has been demonstrated for practical purposes that any figure over 4.75 per house will produce overcrowding.

PUBLIC PARK &c. The War Memorial Committee has acquired 42 acres of land on the Western side of the Town and provided for an important Town Development Scheme viz:-

- (1) Important arterial radial road from Sowerford to Field St.
- (2) Housing Scheme - area approximately 14 acres with subsidiary road leading from above road sufficient area for 175 houses or thereabouts.
- (3) Provision for a Public Park of 24 acres - a real lung near the centre of the town.

NURSING HOME. It is proposed to provide suitable accommodation for the Nurses of a permanent character and the house is situated in Walsall Street, known as Fairfield House (purchase price £1100). It is suggested by the promoters that the funds required might be raised as follows:-

- £1150 from the Manufacturers and Gentlemen of the Town.
- 500 from the Tradesmen's Association (for renovations)
- The necessary furniture and general equipment to be provided by the Ladies of the Town.
- 500 for the maintenance for the first year to be raised by the various Trades Union organizations of the Town.

Appended is a Report of the Sanitary Inspector together with a tabular statement of his work; the Table required by the Home Office and also the Special Housing Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

HENRY J. DEAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

April 21st 1920.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year ending December
31st 1919.

Summary of Work and inspections carried out by the Inspector of
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts .

Factory and Workshop Acts. Housing
and Town Planning Acts.

Table A. Inspections etc.

	Insp- ectio- ns	Infor- mal No- tices	Formal Notices	Nos of Nuisa- nces	Nuisances abate	
					Infor- mal. Notices	after Formal Notices
Dwelling houses - Schools etc.						
Insanitary conditions	105	72	3	72	50	3
Dilapidated.	202	119	11	119	75	4
Venueous dwellings - cleaned	14	12	2	12	12	2
Schools (by occupier	9	9	nil	9	8	nil
Overcrowded	55	24	5	24	20	4
Unfit for habitation	3	3	3	3	-	3
Dairies	16	4	1	4	3	1
Milkshops	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cowsheds	18	8	-	8	8	-
Bakahouses	15	5	-	5	5	-
Other workshops and Factories	65	22	2	22	17	1
Common Lodging house (1)	11	4	-	4	4	-
Slaughterhouses	49	8	-	8	8	-
House Drainage Defective taps	3	3	-	3	3	-
No disconnection	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defective W.Cs and drains	151	131	14	131	98	13
Deposits of refuse and manure	36	29	-	29	29	-
Pigs and other animals	14	14	4	14	10	4
improperly kept	28	26	1	28	23	1
Defective eaves guttering	71	55	5	55	31	2
Smoke nuisances	2	-	-	-	-	-
Defective water supplies	27	13	-	13	13	-
Dangerous structures reported to the Surveyor	41	41	-	-	-	-
Sundry nuisances	18	56	4	58	38	2
Ashpits (reported for emptying)	1253	-	-	-	-	-
Crooked Closets released by Council's men	754	-	-	-	-	-
Re-inspection of nuisances	361	-	-	-	-	-
Infectious cases investigated	449	-	-	-	-	-
Proceedings taken for nuisances	2	-	-	-	-	-
I Complied with - I withdrawn						

T A B L E (B)

FACTORIES and WORKSHOPS

Factories	inspections	34	notices	22
Workshops	:	42	:	22

(Factories and Workshops continued)

DEFECTS

	Inspection	Notices	
Want of ventilation	nil	remedied	nil
: : cleanliness	15	do	12
Other nuisances	21	do	16
Sanitary accommodation	3	do	2
Breach of sanitary requirments)			
in Bakehouses	5	do	5
Other offences	nil	do	nil

OTHER MATTERS

Notified by H.M. Inspector	22
Reports to : :	22
New Workshops	4
Underground Bakehouses in use	nil

Homework.	List received		
once	nil	Oddworkers	nil
twice	1	do	4

Principal trades of the workshops on the register.

Locks, Keys, latches	131
File Outting	10
Hardware manufacture	29
Articles of dress	13
Workers in wood and iron	20
Bakehouses	15
Sundry Trades	45
Void - General trades	28
Void - Bakehouses	5
	<u>296</u>

Workshops on the register at end of 1919.	218	occupied	185
Factories on Register at end on 1919.	78	:	78

Housing and Town Planning Inspections, and inspections made for
Housing Returns to the Ministry of Health

Number of houses inspected (Courts &c)	453
: reported as unfit for occupation	379
: : for closing orders	nil
Number of houses in which defects have been remedied (under the P.F.C. Act) see Table A	146
Number of closing orders issued	nil
: of houses closed (voluntarily)	3
: of houses taken down	1
: of houses defective as regards	
(a) Light, ventilation, dampness	114
(b) Paving and other defects	278

Owing to the great shortage of houses for the working-classes no houses have been closed by order of the Council under the Housing and Town Planning Acts.

Improvements &c carried out during the year ending December 31st 1919.

Houses repaired or cleansed	102
: spouting and guttering repaired &c	29
: water service re-instated	15
: W.C. pans and traps renewed &c	23
Defective or choked closets and drains released by Owners	45
: drains repaired or relaid	10
Number of privies abolished	37
: : ashpits :	19
: : dust bins provided	36
Waste water closets taken out -- water closets put in their (place	2
Slaughter house floor relaid and improved	1

Factory Notices complied with.

Separate closet accommodation for the sexes	2
Screens and doors provided to closets	4
Water closets repaired	5
Insufficient light to the W.C.	1
Closet doors repaired	3
Choked drains released	3

UNBOUND FOOD DESTROYED

56 Tins of preserved milk - Fish &c
2 Carcases of pigs - 1 suffocated 1 diseased
1 Box of fish roes 10 stone
1 Box of dates 78 lbs
9 Cases of frozen rabbits - (242 rabbits)

2 Magistrate Orders were obtained for the carcasses of the two pigs - other foods were surrendered voluntarily. The Medical Officer of Health examined the frozen rabbits before they were destroyed owing to their unwholesome condition.

DISINFECTING.

The steam disinfecter was worked on 27 days during the year, and 50 rooms fumigated after infectious cases. 197 articles of clothing and bedding were disinfected at the station after infectious cases.

No schools were closed or fumigated during the year by reason of the prevalence of infectious disease.

OTHER MATTERS

Rag Flock Act - Number of samples taken for analysis	3
Tuberculosis shelters in the district (2)	2
Sewer connections	2
Slaughter houses 14. Bakehouses 15. Cowsheds 5.	
Dairies 1. Milk sellers 38.	

S.D. WRIGHT

Inspector of Nuisances.

HOUSING

(1) General Housing conditions in the District:-

a. Number of houses - total number	3837
Number for the working classes.	3537
New houses for the working classes erected during the year or in course of erection.	nil

(2) Population - Estimated 20,090

and industrial developments during the next 3 years.
It is anticipated that new industries in the district will require the erection of 700 new houses to meet the needs of 1400 employees.

(3) Extent of housing needs, during the next 3 years.

Total number (estimated) of new houses required as per Housing Survey:- 1859

- (a) To meet the unsatisfied demand (growth of population) 150 150
- (b) To meet the existing overcrowding 381
- (c) To replace houses that are unfit for occupation and obstructive buildings which are occupied but unfit for use as dwellings. 378
- (d) To meet anticipated deficiencies arising from new industrial developments 700
- (e) To-day 50 houses are required for works extensions. 50
- (f) Employees living out and requiring houses within the District. 200

Total 1859

(3)b

Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage.
Plans have been passed and tenders given for the building of 120 houses - building operations being now in progress. (March 1920)

3 (b)

In addition to the above the Council have proposed and the Ministry of Health have approved the following:-
(1) 118 houses on Wolverhampton Road Sites 3, 3A and 4.
(2) 168 houses on the Park Site at the rear of Field St. and Wolverhampton St. making a total of 406 houses, being the first installment towards the estimated total of 1859 required.

(11) Overcrowding :- Extent.

The number of houses intended for one family now occupied by two or more families. 404

Causes :- (1) General shortage of houses, no new houses built in recent years..

(2) Houses demolished for works extension.

(3) Natural growth of the population.

(4) War and post-war industrial developments, new trades & have occasioned an influx of population which has every appearance of being permanent.

New houses built during the past 10 years. 198

Houses taken down for works extension or closure &c 140

Net gain of 57 houses for the past 10 years.

Measures taken or contemplated to deal with overcrowding.

See 3 (b) above.

Principal cases of overcrowding dealt with during the year and action taken.

24 cases of overcrowding were abated during the year, but very little can be done owing to the extreme shortage of houses.

(111) Fitness of houses:-

(a) General standard of houses in the District:-

Working classes about 90% a large number of which have reached the limit of their natural life.

(b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses.

Defective lighting - ventilation - dampness - confined area, - paving and other defects:- number of houses with defects 392 out of 453 houses inspected during the year.

(c) Action taken under the Public Health Acts - The Housing Acts. No houses have been closed owing to the extreme shortage of houses.. (a) 146 houses have been repaired &c under the Public Health Act. (see also tables A & C in report) Appendices.

any and present New York guidelines to be used (a) until
the next revision of the guidelines is issued
, and (b) until the next revision of the guidelines is issued
-1-

- (1) nil
- (2) Action under Section 17 of the Housing Act of 1909
- (a) Number of houses inspected 453
- (b) Number of houses considered to be unfit for habitation. 379
- (c) Number of dwelling houses the defects were remedied without closing orders (see c above 146
- (3) Action under Section 28 of the Housing Act 1919 nil
(Inspections were made under section 17 of the 1909 Act.)
- (4) Closing Orders. nil
- (5) Demolition orders nil
- (6) Number of dwelling houses (demolished) closed voluntarily 3
Excluding those demolished by owners for works extensions.
- (7) Obstructive buildings nil
- (8) Staff engaged in housing work, briefly, duties of each officer.
Surveyor - who is also the Surveyor and engineer to the Local Authority. A Firm of Architects are assisting the Surveyor under the Housing Scheme.
One housing assistant under the Surveyor.
One assistant in Clerks department for clerical work.
The Sanitary Inspector who is also the housing Inspector under the Act.
The Medical Officer of Health.

Other details taken from the Housing survey October 1919.

Prevailing conditions.

Inhabitated houses which are not and cannot be made fit for human habitation. 378

(Other details taken from the Housing survey October 1919 Cont)

Number of persons occupying these houses. 1608

Number of houses already subject to closing orders 2
(1 of these is now closed)

How many houses are seriously defective but can be made
habitable? 1000
(This figure is based on a low standard, a higher
standard would materially increase the figure
given)

Proposed action.

What action is contemplated by the local
authority with regard to

(a) Houses which are not and cannot be made fit for
human habitation?

Owners will probably be requested to execute
the minimum work required to permit of habitation
until new houses are provided to re house the occupants.

(b) Houses which are seriously defective but can be made
habitable . Defects be remedied at the earliest date.

(6) Within what time is it contemplated that conditions will be
such as to warrant the demolition of the houses which are
not and cannot be made fit for human habitation?.

Depending entirely on the rate the new houses required
are erected, which is again dependent on skilled
labour and materials being forth-coming.

